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Heisman Trophy
candidate
Tommie Frazier

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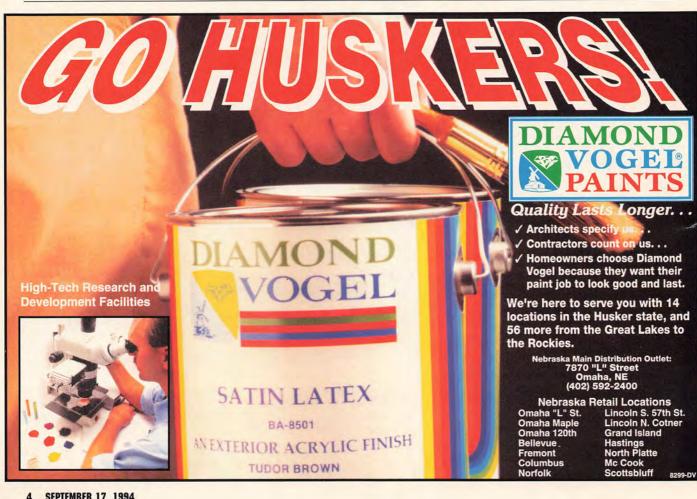
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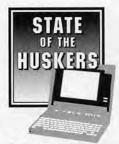






## ISSUE

Our next issue will review UCLA and preview Pacific. We will also take a look at some of the best prep running backs in the country. Find out who is interested in Nebraska and what the Huskers' needs are.



# **Perception Alteration**

The media has jumped on the Nebraska bandwagon in 1994. But will they stay on if there are bumps?

By MIKE BABCOCK

Terry Connealy, Nebraska's senior defensive tackle and cocaptain, continued to marvel at the national news media's reaction to the Cornhuskers in the wake of their 18-16 loss to Florida State in the

1994 Orange Bowl game. Eight months later, reporters were still

asking about it.

"It's funny," Connealy said during the Kickoff Classic's media day interviews. "You can go to Miami, lose the game and

gain respect.'

Connealy said he could do without the respect. "To be honest, I would rather win the game and lose respect." Even so, "that game gave us confidence. We proved to ourselves, as well as to everybody else, that we've got the athletes to compete."

The two-point loss, in a game in which Nebraska was a 17-point underdog, seems to have done more for Coach Tom Osborne's program than any victory in the

last decade.

"Perception is a strange thing to get a handle on," Osborne said at the media day. "People tell me we have more respect. But it's bizarre that one game makes so much difference, or that three or four games can make a difference the other way."

Nebraska opened last season ranked No. 9 in the Associated Press poll and had difficulty moving up, despite winning. The Cornhuskers didn't move up as high as No. 5 until their record was 6-0. They fell back to No. 6 a week later, after a convincing 49-7 victory against Missouri, and they weren't voted No. 2 in the AP poll until late November, before their final regular season game with Oklahoma.

Until the Orange Bowl loss, no matter how well the Cornhuskers played, all that seemed to matter nationally were Nebraska's six consecutive bowl-game losses. With bowl loss No. 7 came the remarkable turnaround.

The dramatic change in perception was evident in the build-up to the Kickoff Classic, which provided a national showcase for a Cornhusker team that could be among Osborne's best. There was no major league baseball that Sunday because of the players' strike, and the National Football League's reguCornhuskers prior to the 1994 Orange Bowl game. But after the Kickoff Classic, James described them as legitimate national title contenders. The Cornhuskers had gained confidence; they believed in



Nebraska's land-slide win over West Virginia had the media talking national title and propelled quarterback **Tommie Frazier into another** talk — Heisman.

lar season was still a week away when Nebraska whipped West Virginia 31-0. The ease with which the Cornhuskers won seemed to lend credence to all of the good things experts were saying about them.

And there was plenty of praise, before and after, for them and their coach. Craig James, a college football analyst for ESPN, was among those whose opinion of Nebraska apparently was changed by the Florida State game. The former Southern Methodist University and NFL running back had little good to say about the



themselves, he said.

On the morning of the West Virginia game, a segment of ESPN's "Sports Reporters" program dealt with the question of whether Osborne "deserved" a national championship. The weekly program's participants included host Dick Schaap and regulars Bill Conlin, Bob Ryan and John Feinstein, all sports writers.

The four were unanimous in endorsing Osborne and his program. "I like the guy," said Conlin, a sports columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. "He's got the guts to go for the

Conlin, who isn't quick to hand out such compliments, was referring specifically to Nebraska's 31-30 loss against Miami in the 1984 Orange Bowl game. Osborne, of course, elected to attempt a two-point conversion for the victory rather than settling for an almost-certain kick and tie that would have kept his team undefeated and probably have given it enough votes for a national championship.

Because of that decision, Osborne and his program enjoyed considerable national respect until the string of bowl-game losses began to erode it. Ten years later, the respect

seemed to be all but gone.

Because of their performance against Florida State, Cornhuskers "regained respect," said Ryan, a columnist for the Boston Globe. "I like Nebraska (as a national title favorite). The (jackpot) tumblers are in place (for the Cornhuskers)."

Much was made of the similarities between 1994 Nebraska and 1993 Florida State, national champion according to both the AP and CNN/USA Today rankings. The Seminoles were led by quarterback Charlie Ward, the Heisman Trophy winner. The Cornhuskers are led by Tommie Frazier, whose MVP performance in the Kickoff Classic enhanced his status as a Heisman candidate. Bobby Bowden was among college football's most successful coaches, but he had never been voted a national championship. Osborne, the nation's winningest active Division I coach, is in the same situation now.

Prior to the season, ABC's Brent Musburger was quoted in USA Today: "It's time everyone said the same thing about Nebraska's Tom Osborne as they did about FSU's Bobby Bowden last year."

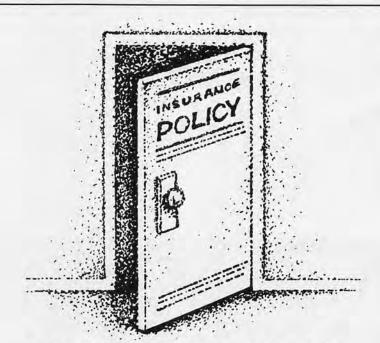
After the Kickoff Classic, just

about everyone was.

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# NOTEBOOK

### ABDUL DOOLITTLE

Before Abdul Muhammad leaves Nebraska, he has some unfinished business to attend to. Sure, the senior from Compton, Calif., would like to cap his college career with a national championship, but he'd also like to see the sights in Nebraska.

"I'd like to visit a farm before I leave here," Muhammad said. "I love animals."

Muhammad is very interested in animals. He practically lives in a

You won't see common animals in Muhammad's domain. He tends to collect a special breed of animal.

"I even have my own little zoo - a boa constrictor, some red devil fighting fish and a Rottweiler," he said. "I guess I like the fighters and the survivors."

Muhammad is somewhat a survivor himself. He left the ganginfested streets of Los Angeles when he came to Lincoln on a football scholarship. In the summer of 1993, while back home in Compton, he was shot during a drive-by shooting.

The bullet is still lodged in his back to prove it.

Then in the Orange Bowl last January, Muhammad broke two ribs and lacerated his liver when he was hit by a Florida State defender trying to catch a pass from Tommie Frazier.

A month after the Orange Bowl, he suffered a deep cut in his hand when he tried to break

up a fight.

"I think back on last year, the shooting, the ribs, the liver, my hand, as the worst of a bad year," he said. "But it seemed that that had to be the worst it could get for me."

But Muhammad withstood all of his injuries and decided to play his senior year instead of sitting out as a redshirt. He waited until a few days before the season opener to make his decision.

"It's clear now - I'm going to play," he said. "It's just that one more trip to the hospital and I might as well quit football and become a nurse."

He wants to prove his survival skills after he gets his degree. He plans to return to Compton.

Now, when he returns home he



Tom Novak's jersey is the only one to stay permanently retired.

receives a hero's welcome.

"There are gangs and there are sports. If you choose sports, the gangs leave you alone. Even gang members, when I go back, all they want to talk about is football and how they saw Nebraska on TV and how we got some bad calls in the Orange Bowl."

For the time being, Muhammad is content in helping Nebraska survive the season at No. 1. Against West Virginia in the Kickoff Classic, he caught one pass for 23 yards.

### UNRETIRED

A spectator unfamiliar with Nebraska football probably would have done a double-take during fall football practices. On the field for the Huskers were players wearing No. 20 and No. 30.

Those numbers were retired for Heisman Trophy winners Johnny Rodgers and Mike Rozier, respec-

No, Nebraska won't be using the Heisman duo this season. Instead, junior college I-back Brian Knuckles (30) and defensive back Michael Booker (20) were clad in the retired

Make that formerly retired duds.

Six of the seven retired numbers have been activated. The reason? Obviously, numbers.

"The duplicating of numbers was confusing," Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne said.

An animal lover, wingback Abdul Muhammad has some strange business he wants to take care of before leaving NU.



Chris Faytol Photo by

To help ease the situation, the athletic department brought back the numbers 30, 20, 34 (Trev Alberts), 50 (Dave 71 Rimington), (Dean Steinkuhler), 75 (Larry Jacobson) and 79 (Rich Glover). The jerseys of the six players are still retired, but Nebraska is going away from retiring numbers.

"We've retired some jerseys but not permanently retired them," Ösborne said. "We're just getting short on numbers, so we're going to let people wear

Rimington's jersey was retired after the Omaha native won the Outland Trophy in 1981-82 and the Lombardi Award in 1982. Steinkuhler won the Outland and Lombardi tro-

phies in 1983. Rich Glover won both awards in 1972, and Jacobson won the Outland in 1971. Trev Alberts was the first Nebraska player to win the Butkus Award, in 1993.

The only jersey to stay permanently retired is No. 60, worn by Tom Novak. The N Club decided to retire the number in 1949 to honor the All-America lineman and fourtime all-conference standout.

Because the N Club retired the number, the athletic department decided against using No. 60 again.

### **NO DISGUISIN' THIS GUY**

Quarterback Tommie Frazier started growing a beard this fall to provide himself with some anonymity when he was out and about in Lincoln. The disguise didn't last

Coach Osborne told Frazier to shave it because of the team policy against facial hair. So, Frazier did



Photo by Chris Faytok

and stuck around the house, relaxing in an effort to save up his energy for this fall.

### A BIG SPLASH

Zach Wiegert, the 300-pound All-America candidate at offensive tackle, strained his hamstring while skiing, prior to the beginning of fall practice. Wiegert took some ribbing from his teammates as a result.

When asked if he thought Wiegert might be in line for the major awards for college football linemen this year, defensive lineman Terry Connealy said, "Only if he can play football better than he can water ski."

#### **ELDER LEAVES**

Jon Elder, Nebraska's only scholarship quarterback recruit in the 1994 class, transferred to Wayne State. Walk-on Monte Christo, from

> Kearney, Neb., has been playing well and will serve as the Huskers' fourth-string signalcaller behind Frazier, Brook Berringer and Matt Turman.

> Elder did not feel comfortable with NU's offense and thought he might have a better opportunity elsewhere. Because of Elder's transfer, the Huskers pressed a student manager into action.

> Adam Kucera from Lake Javasu City, Ariz., has been added to the team as a walk-

Facial hair or not, Tommie Frazier has become a recognizable face, in and outside of Lincoln.

Christian Peter (55) has left his mark on defense in more than one way.

### "UGLY" LOOKING GOOD

Nose tackle Christian Peter has the rare honor of having a defensive formation named after

A new alignment, put in this fall, has been dubbed "ugly." Peter said with a wide smile, "I don't care. I know I'm good looking in my own special way."

Peter figures to be a mainstay in Nebraska's defense this year. He got off to a good start in front of friends and family in the Kickoff Classic, tallying seven tackles. Peter's parents

reportedly bought 300 tickets for the

### **NU'S MOST-WANTED**

Stadium grounds keeper Bill Shephard came across two hooligans attempting to steal some football helmets and equipment from the north endzone fieldhouse during the first week of practice.

Around 6:30 a.m. Shephard noticed someone standing outside a window taking helmets from someone inside. Shephard called out and a chase ensued. Team trainer Jack Nickolite was nearby and joined in, chasing one of the trespassers in his car. Shephard went around the building and locked all the doors, trapping the second trespasser inside.

Shephard went back inside and got his .22 from his office. After tracking down the trespasser, he brought him outside at gunpoint. The first trespasser outran Nickolite.

### VIDEO FIX

For Husker fans who will die if they can't see every game, there is an answer. Once again, the Husker Season Ticket Video is available for the 1994 season.

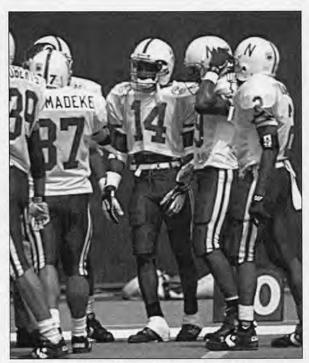
A portion of the proceeds will go toward athletic department scholarships. HST can be reached at (800) 230-3831.

#### **MOTTO CRAZY**

The official team slogan for this season is "Looking For More In '94." However, many of the players are using, "Unfinished Business." Whichever they use, the attitude is definitely, "Get Out Of Our Way!" ■



Confidence and health are the necessary ingredients for a **Husker secondary that** needs to come up with the big plays for this team to be successful



The strength of the secondary could depend on the development of senior rover Kareem Moss (29), a better than average pass cover guy. Cornerback Barron Miles (14) will be responsible for getting Moss and the rest of the secondary to that point.

s he finished talking to newspaper reporters following the first Saturday scrimmage of preseason practice, one in which the defense played enthusiastically well, Nebraska defensive coordinator Charlie McBride offered an unsolicited reiteration of a Cornhusker concern.

"If one of those defensive backs goes down (with an injury), you can put the cover on your typewriters," McBride said. He laughed, but without humor.

George Darlington, Nebraska's secondary coach, shared that opinion, although he expressed it less figuratively than did McBride. He'll be comfortable with this group of defensive backs, Darlington said, adding with what might be construed as optimism: "once we get healthy."

And, Darlington might have added, once

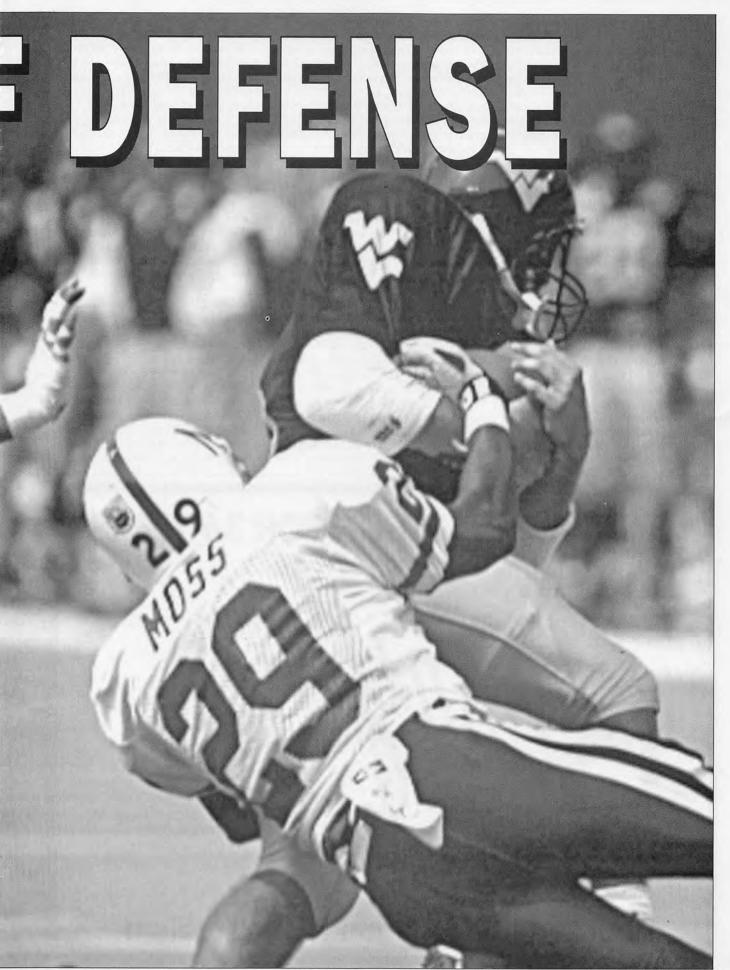
they're all eligible.

Junior cornerback Tyrone Williams, an experienced and important part of the secondary, served a disciplinary suspension during the 31-0 victory against West Virginia in the Kickoff Classic, for an incident involving the discharge of a firearm during the off-season. The legal aspects of the incident probably won't be resolved until after the season, possibly in January. So Williams returned to the secondary for the Texas Tech game

His return was cause for silent celebration by Darlington. As the Cornhuskers made final preparations for their trip to East Rutherford, N.J., for Kickoff Classic XII, Darlington said, in assessing prospects for the secondary: "We'd be sitting pretty good with Williams at corner."

As it turned out, Nebraska's secondary was sitting pretty good without Williams, and with redshirted sophomore Eric Stokes less than 100 percent healthy. Darlington turned to Leslie Dennis as the starting cornerback on the side opposite senior Barron Miles, and Dennis responded like a veteran rather than the redshirted freshman he is. "At times, we had Leslie Dennis out there all by himself," Coach Tom Osborne said after the game. Yet there was "only one ball caught against him."

Dennis earned the start with a solid fall camp. He caused a fumble in the first major scrimmage and blocked a punt in the second, despite playing with a broken hand. McBride expressed some concern about Dennis' size. "Whether he can hold up (physically) is the question," McBride said, quickly adding in answer to his own ques-



tion: "He's too tough to get hurt."

In the absence of Williams, Dennis gained valuable experience under pressure. He played when the game was on the line. What was an apparent negative prior to the Kickoff Classic, relying on a young and inexperienced cornerback, has turned into a benefit for the defense now

Just as he would have played Williams in the opener if he could have, Darlington would have held out Tony Veland if he had thought the secondary could get by without the converted quarterback. Veland, now a safety, could have benefited considerably from the additional nine days between the Kickoff Classic and the Texas Tech game, according to Darlington. Before the Kickoff Classic, he said: "We don't have the luxury of an easy first opponent. If we did, we would try to get by without using Veland."

Because he was new to the secondary, Veland needed repetitions during practice. Experienced players such as Miles and Mike Minter, the No. 1 free safety, can afford to miss some practice without affecting their performance. If they need to be rest-

ed occasionally, they can be without jeopardizing the defense.

Veland has adapted to safety quicker than anyone had a right to expect. Before he played a game, he had shown enough in practice to convince Darlington "if he's healthy, he'll be a darn good player. He'll make it interesting even as it is. He's a prototype NFL safety."

That was high praise, not only because two-a-day practices had just ended but also because Veland couldn't get on the field during the spring because of his continuing rehabilitation of the knee injury suffered in the second game that sidelined him nearly all of last season.

Because of the knee injury — a torn patellar tendon — Veland would have been allowed to take time off during two-a-day practices in the fall to enable him to rest his legs. But because he was on the sideline all spring, Darlington couldn't afford to hold him out and still have him ready to play against West Virginia. It was something of a Catch 22 situation. "By practicing him, we're not giving him a chance to rest his legs," Darlington said, noting Veland was "about 80 percent" for

the Kickoff Classic.

Convincing the Mountaineers of that would have been difficult. Veland made two unassisted tackles, including one that was especially violent in its impact. "Tony Veland really played well today," McBride said following the game. "He made some great hits. I was thrilled to death (with his play)."

Stokes, like Veland, was less than 100 percent recovered from the hip surgery that left him on crutches for three months during the off-season. It was probably "the longest summer I'll ever have," said Stokes, who didn't start walking without the crutches until about three weeks before fall camp. He didn't start jogging until a week after that.

The surgery was to repair a fracture and perform a bone graft. When fall practice began, Darlington was uncertain whether Stokes would be able to make the trip to New Jersey,

much less play. His recovery was a

"bonus for us," Darlington said.
With Williams off suspension,
Dennis baptized under fire in the
Kickoff Classic and Stokes reasonably healthy, the Cornhuskers
appear to be well settled at corner-

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back. Miles is experienced and has valuable leadership qualities. He does a "tremendous job of coaching younger players," said Darlington. The only problem with that is, "cornerbacks are told what to do; they don't tell others."

Cornerbacks don't tell others in the secondary what to do because they can't. Their positioning leaves them with a limited perspective. As a result, the responsibility for making certain the secondary is lined up properly and adjusts according to the offensive sets falls to the safeties. "That makes it imperative to have more than one guy inside (at the safeties)," Darlington said.

Going into the season, Darlington knew he had one safety on whom he could count, for sure - Minter, who backed up Toby Wright at rover (strong safety) last season as a redshirted freshman. Minter, an all-state high school running back from Lawton, Okla., has a definite aptitude for safety, according to Darlington.

"His first day of practice, he was lining up every guy and knew all the techniques," said Darlington. "He was so quiet when we recruited him, it was hard to carry on a conversation with him on the phone."

Minter has proved to be assertive and is capable of playing either safety position. He began the season at free safety, with Veland as his backup and redshirted freshman Matt Aden at No. 3. Aden is another of the defensive backs whose wellbeing has been a concern. He missed last season because of a knee injury and was sidelined during the spring after suffering a lacerated liver.

The strength of the secondary also depends on the development of senior Kareem Moss as a rover during the non-conference season. Moss was the backup to Miles at cornerback last fall. Because of his experience at cornerback and his speed, Moss gives Nebraska "a better than average (pass) cover guy for an inside player," said Darlington.

Hurting the secondary is the departure of senior free safety Sedric Collins. Collins, citing personal reasons, left the team following the West Virginia game.

Among the other defensive backs getting a look early in the season, if and when the opportunity arises, are sophomores Trampis Wrice, who

redshirted last season, Michael Booker, Jamel Williams and Mike Roberts, a walk-on from Central High in Omaha. After the first scrimmage of the fall, McBride included Tray Crayton among those few freshmen who might be able to contribute without redshirting. Crayton, however, didn't travel to the Kickoff Classic or to Texas Tech, and likely will redshirt. Final decisions on redshirting needn't be made immediately. But considering the play in the secondary, there's little reason for Crayton to use up a season of eligibility in a reserve role.

Nebraska's performance in the Kickoff Classic also underscored the importance of a pass rush in the effectiveness of the secondary.

The key to success is "if we can get the secondary to come up with a couple of big plays early in the season," McBride said. As if on cue, the Cornhuskers responded with two interceptions in the Kickoff Classic, including one by Collins at the goal line on West Virginia's final play from scrimmage to preserve the shutout.

"Confidence is a lot of it." McBride said.

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# Nebraska vs. UCLA

Huskers' first real test comes at home against a Bruin team that is looking to make amends in 1994

September 17, 1994 • 2:30 p.m. (CDT) • Memorial Stadium • Lincoln, Neb.

Tith UCLA's schedule in 1994, no one can accuse Terry Donahue of ducking stiff competition. After opening with wins against Tennessee (25-23) and Southern Methodist (17-10), the Bruins now face Nebraska before finishing with eight consecutive games against Pacific 10 opponents.

Playing Tennessee and at Nebraska early in the season, Donahue should be able to tell how UCLA will do during the conference schedule.

"We'll have a good indication of what kind of team we'll be real early in the season," he said. "We're going to hope to win the games and not get hurt.

"There won't be any time for

experimentation."

The defending Pac 10 champion has plenty of experience to help the Bruins get through the first part of their schedule. Thirteen starters return from last year's team that finished 8-4 (including a 14-13 loss to Nebraska).

The most important starter UCLA has back is split end J.J. Stokes. Stokes, an early entry in the Heisman Trophy race, caught 82 passes for 1,181 yards and scored 17 touchdowns a year ago.

Stokes, a senior, opted to return to UCLA for his final season rather than turn professional. The decision

## 1994 UCLA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record — 2-0

Sept. 3 Tennessee W, 25-23

Sept. 10 SMU W, 17-10

Sept. 17 @ Nebraska Sept. 24 Washington St.

Oct. 1 @ Washington

Oct. 8 @ California

Oct. 15 Oregon St.

Oct. 22 @ Arizona Oct. 29 Stanford

Nov. 12 @ Arizona St.

Nov. 19 USC



more than pleased Donahue.

"'We're delighted," he said. "J.J.'s going to draw an awful lot of attention. People are going to be all over him. That's hard. When you decided to double-cover a guy, make sure he's not going to get the ball. It does open other opportunities.

"One of our concerns, one of our challenges, is to make sure we can get the ball to that guy. I want to make sure J.J. gets his share of receptions."

Against the Volunteers in the season opener, Stokes grabbed six passes for 84 yards in the win.

However, UCLA may have found a receiver against Tennessee to take some pressure off Stokes. Starting flanker Kevin Jordan caught six passes for 152 yards, including a 51yard touchdown reception, in the first game of the year.

One player Donahue won't have to worry about is quarterback Wayne Cook. The senior completed 165 of 297 passes for 2,067 yards last season. He threw 18 touchdown passes and had just four picked off.

Cook opened his senior year in a

J.J. Stokes has the nation's attention, but don't look for Nebraska to give him the star treatment.

big way. He hit 25-of-38 pass attempts for 295 yards.

Like Nebraska, UCLA opens the year with experience at quarterback.

"When your quarterback returns, I think that lends itself to stability and lends itself to being settled," Donahue said.

Sophomore Sharmon Shah opened the season as the starting halfback despite being bothered by a swollen knee throughout fall practice.

He shook off the injury enough to rush for 133 yards in 21 carries against Tennessee. James Milliner, the starting fullback who was bothered by a hyper extended elbow in the preseason, gained 21 yards on 10 attempts.

But the back situation wasn't settled until the last minute. As a matter of fact, Donahue didn't know if Shah would be on the field or recovering from surgery until days before opening kickoff.

"Right now, he doesn't have the swelling or the discomfort," he said. "But that could change in practice or in games."

If Shah reinjures his knee, senior Daron Washington will fill in.

Because of the running back situation and the tough early schedule, Donahue didn't put his team through a demanding preseason practice schedule.

We've had kind of a different two-a-days," he said. "We took great pains to not bang our players up. I think for the most part, we accom-

plished that."

SE

LT 56

LG 76

C

RG

RT 72

TE 85

QB

FB 40

IB

WB 27

PK

DT

SAM

MLB

WLB 32

LCB 14

RCB

ROV

FS

P

61

69

54

51

66

65

61

88

15

18

33

55

99

57 ROLB 84

93

45

37

8

2

9

47

It will take a lot to bang up UCLA's offensive line. The five starters are so big they could pass as starters for the Bruin basketball

Tackles Jonathan (6-foot-8, 315 pounds) and Mike Rohme (6-6, 283), guards James Christensen (at 6-3, 270 the runt of the bunch) and Matt Soenksen (6-6, 300) and center Mike

HUSKER 2-DEEP

**OFFENSE** 

5-9 180 So

6-5 315 Sr

6-4 290 Sr

6-3 280 Sr

6-3 280 Jr

6-5 300 Sr

6-3 235 Sr

6-2 225 Sr

6-2 205 Jr

6-0 230 Sr

5-10 210 Jr

6-0 220 So

5-11 205 So

5-9 160 Sr

5-11 210 Jr

6-5 205 Sr

6-2 225 Sr

6-5

6-2

6-5

6-2

6-2

6-4

6-1

6-3

6-2

6-1

6-5

5-8

6-0

5-8

230 Fr

285 Jr

255 So

275 Sr 6-3 260 Sr

220 Sr

250 So

220 Sr

215 Sr

240 Jr

225 Jr

215 Sr

220 So

165 Sr

180 Jr

185 Jr

165 Fr

5-10 190 Sr

5-10 180 So

6-2 200 Jr

6-2 200 Fr

6-4

6-2

6-4

6-1

6-4

6-4

275 Jr

265 Sr

300 Sr

255 Jr

290 Sr

210 Jr

Reggie Baul Brendan Holbein

Rob Zatechka

Brady Caskey

Aaron Graham

Bill Humphrey

Brenden Stai

Zach Wiegert

Brady Caskey Matt Shaw

Tommie Frazier

Brook Berringer

Jeff Makovicka

Cory Schlesinger

Lawrence Phillips

Abdul Muhammad

DEFENSE

Damon Benning

Clester Johnson

Grant Wistrom

Christian Peter

Scott Saltsman

Terry Connealy

Donta Jones

Jared Tomich

Troy Dumas

Clint Brown

46 Doug Colman

Phil Ellis

Ed Stewart

Barron Miles

Ryan Terwilliger

Tyrone Williams

Dave Alderman Tony Veland

Leslie Dennis

29 Kareem Moss

Matt Aden

Darren Schmadeke 5-8

Jason Pesterfield

12 Tom Sieler

LOLB 86 Dwayne Harris

Eric Alford

Bryan Pruitt

Joel Wilks Steve Ott

Flanagan (6-5, 281) should give Cook plenty of time to throw.

Compared to their offensive counterparts, UCLA's defensive line looks small. Tackle Sale Isaia is the biggest member of the group at 6-5, 315 pounds. London Woodfin (6-2, 286) will start at the other tackle spot and George Kase (6-3, 245) is the nose guard.

Linebacker is a concern to Donahue. Outside linebacker Donnie Edwards is solid, and inside backer Shane Jasper gives the Bruins some additional experience.

"This area was probably our hardest hit in terms of personnel losses because we had to replace three

starters," Donahue said.

In the secondary, UCLA returns both cornerbacks in senior Carl Greenwood and junior Teddy Lawrence. Lawrence had three interceptions last year, while Greenwood, one of the top one-on-one defenders, made 41 tackles.

### **BRUIN 2-DEEP**

		OFFENSE			
SE	18	J.J. Stokes	6-5	223	Sr.
	81	Mike Nguyen	6-1	182	Sr.
LT	79	Jonathan Ogden	6-8	315	Jr.
	61	Sean Gully	6-5	279	Fr.
LG	62	James Cristensen	6-3	270	Jr.
	78	Karl Schroller	6-6	303	Jr.
C	58	Mike Flanagan	6-5	281	Jr.
	72	Darren McClure	6-5	276	So.
RG	73	Matt Soenksen	6-6	300	Jr.
	75	Mike Rohme	6-6	283	Jr.
RT	63	Paul Kennedy	6-7	291	Sr.
	69	Chad Overhauser	6-5	290	Fr.
TE	99	Brian Richards	6-4	247	Jr.
	96	Jamal Clark	6-5	242	So.
QB	15	Wayne Cook	6-4		Sr.
	7	Ryan Fien	6-4	215	So.
LH	36	James Milliner	6-0	216	Jr.
	30	Daron Washington		214	
RH	33	Sharmon Shah	5-10	189	
	30	Daron Washington	6-1	214	Sr.
FLK	4	Kevin Jordan	6-2	188	
	14	Bryan Adams	5-10	165	Sr.
PK	37	Bjorn Merten	6-0	199	So.
		DEFENSE			
LT	55	Sale Isaia	6-5	315	Sr.
	77	Grady Stretz	6-4	273	Jr.
NIC	50		00	DAR	11.2

55	Sale Isaia	6-5	315	Sr.
77	Grady Stretz	6-4	273	Jr.
59	George Kase	6-3	245	Jr.
57	Danjuan Magee	6-2	255	Fr.
89	Gary Walton	6-4	257	Jr.
98	Travis Kirschke	6-4	263	So.
97	Phillip Ward	6-3	225	So.
54	Anthony Jones	6-4	250	So.
40	Rod Smalley	6-3	235	Sr.
53	Brian Wilmer	6-2	244	Sr.
90	Shane Jasper	6-3	258	Sr.
49	Jeff Ruckman	6-2	224	So.
	77 59 57 89 98 97 54 40 53 90	77 Grady Stretz 59 George Kase 57 Danjuan Magee 89 Gary Walton 98 Travis Kirschke 97 Phillip Ward 54 Anthony Jones 40 Rod Smalley 53 Brian Wilmer 90 Shane Jasper	77 Grady Stretz 6-4 59 George Kase 6-3 57 Danjuan Magee 6-2 89 Gary Walton 6-4 98 Travis Kirschke 6-4 97 Phillip Ward 6-3 54 Anthony Jones 6-4 40 Rod Smalley 6-3 58 Brian Wilmer 6-2 90 Shane Jasper 6-3	77 Grady Stretz     6-4     273       59 George Kase     6-3     245       57 Danjuan Magee     6-2     255       89 Gary Walton     6-4     257       98 Travis Kirschke     6-4     263       97 Phillip Ward     6-3     225       40 Rod Smalley     6-3     235       53 Brian Wilmer     6-2     244       90 Shane Jasper     6-3     258

OLB Donnie Edwards 6-3 216 Jr. Brian Stewart 6-2 221 Sr. LCB Teddy Lawrence 5-9 187 Jr. 10 Andy Colbert 165 So. 5-8 Abdul McCullough SS 6-0 200 So. 6-0 200 Jr. 27 Ted Nwoke FS 12 5-10 175 So. Paul Guidry 20 Glenn Thompkins 170 Fr. 5-9 RCB 21

Carl Greenwood

Aaron Roques

29

6-0 192 Sr. 180 Fr. 6-0 194 Sr.

6-1

6 Darin Erstad 6-2 175 So 28 Darren Schager Depth charts were compiled September 11 and could change before game time. PRESS

 Chris Fowler, ESPN: I think Nebraska will beat UCLA. I think the Tennessee game exploited the Bruins'

vulnerability against the run, and Barron Miles will contain Stokes. Nebraska 27, UCLA 17.

- Doug Looney, Sports Illustrated: UCLA at Nebraska: Obviously, Nebraska is going to win. Nebraska is trying to pretend like this is a difficult game because they're so embarrassed by their schedule, but it's not. Nebraska 28, UCLA 6.
- Tom Vint, Associated Press (Lincoln): I think it'll be an interesting game. UCLA, with the Cook and Stokes combo, will help the Bruins greatly this time around. Being able to stop Stokes will be a real test, but I still think the Huskers have enough tools to pull out another one. Nebraska 27, UCLA
- Todd Henrichs, Hastings Tribune: This is UCLA's big chance to really return to the top echelon of college football. To beat Nebraska, In Lincoln, could put the Bruins in the Top four or five in most people's eyes. So I think they'll come out really ready to upset the Huskers. Nebraska, I'm afraid, will feel the pressure of being No. 1 increasingly so as the season goes on. As that pressure mounts, there will be some close games. Nebraska 24, UCLA 22.
- Chuck Stevens, KFOR Radio (Lincoln): Last year's game at UCLA was quite a battle and because both schools have good programs this year, I expect another good game. I think Nebraska is a little better this year, especially on defense. This one should go down to the fourth quarter and that favors the Huskers. Nebraska 20, UCLA 17.

LUBBOCK, Texas — Texas Tech's defense found dealing with Nebraska a little like squeezing a balloon. When pressure is applied at one point on the surface, another point will bulge.

So it was at Jones Stadium, before a disappointingly small crowd of 32,768 and a national national television audience watching on the ESPN cable network, as the topranked Cornhuskers rolled up 612 yards in dispensing their hosts 42-16. The majority of Nebraska's yards came on the ground, 524 to be exact. It was a vintage Cornhusker offensive effort.

"I don't know if I've ever seen a team that strong or better

prepared," said Texas Tech coach

Spike Dykes. "They've got triple jeopardy. Everywhere you look, they have another tremendous player coming at you. They have a great football team, no doubt about that."

The Red Raiders' defense was to be commended, no doubt about that, either. But it couldn't adjust quickly enough to Nebraska's diversified running attack. Early

on, particularly in the first quarter, Texas Tech had difficulty limiting the options of Cornhusker quarterback Tommie Frazier.

On the game's sixth play from

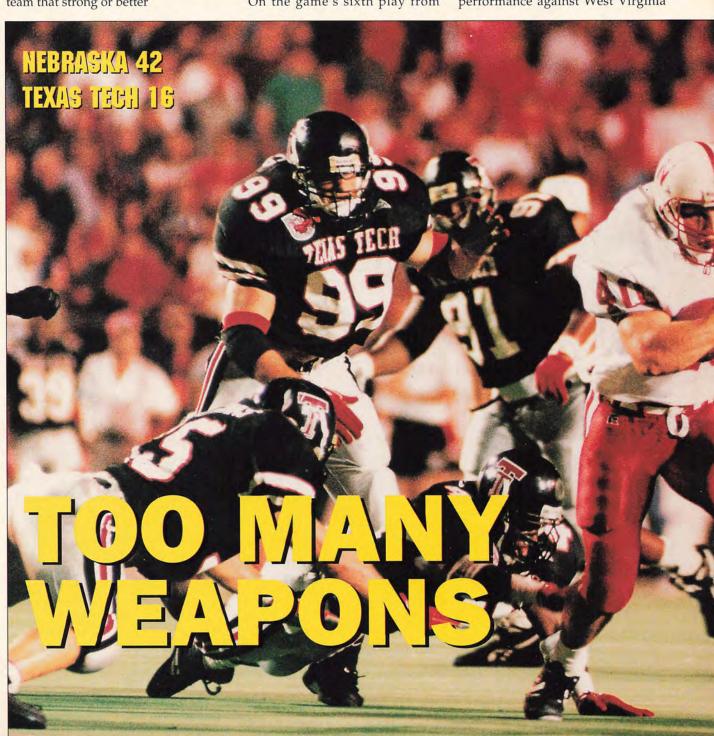
scrimmage, with the Cornhuskers

EXAS TECH

REVIEW

third-and-1 at their own 42yard line, Frazier ran to his right, faked a pitch to I-back Lawrence Phillips and, before the defense could recover from the fake, turned up the field for 58 yards and a touchdown. Texas Tech cornerback Shawn Hurd was the last to have an opportunity to stop Frazier. Even though Hurd had an angle, however, he

couldn't so much as put a hand on the elusive Frazier, who was officially made a candidate for the Heisman Trophy after a similarly impressive performance against West Virginia



in the Kickoff Classic.

Anyway, two minutes and one second into the Texas Tech game, Nebraska led 7-0. The game looked like it would be easy.

On the play before the first of his two touchdown runs, Frazier had found an open Reggie Baul in the vicinity of the Texas Tech 30-yard line. But Frazier's pass was less than perfect, and Baul couldn't hold on.

Frazier completed three of his first four passes, and four of his first seven. But from then on, his passing was undistinguished, to be kind, if not disappointing, to be honest. He threw seven consecutive incomplete passes, beginning in the second quarter and carrying into the fourth.



The Red Raider secondary might have relaxed a little as a result of Frazier's ineffective passing because five plays after the seventh incompletion, on a thirdand-5 from the Red Raider 35-yard line, Frazier started as if on an option run, pulled up and passed to tight end Eric Alford for a touchdown. It was apparent by then, if it hadn't been already: Nebraska had too many offensive weapons.

By the time Alford caught the first pass of his Cornhusker career, the game's outcome had been decided. After Texas Tech drove 80 yards for a touchdown to begin the second half, on a nine-play drive that included a 16-yard pass that television replays showed wasn't caught and a pass interference a third-and-10,

Nebraska established its superiority in kind. The Cornhuskers responded with an eight-play, 82-yard touchdown drive. Two of those eight plays produced 65 of the yards, on runs by fullback Cory Schlesinger.

In the first half, Schlesinger had gained 7 yards on three carries. The Texas Tech defense seemed to have no reason for concern. Apply pressure one place, and another bulges. Schlesinger gained 41 yards on his first carry in the second half. Before Tech could adjust, he had run for 24 more.

Phillips, who rushed for a careerbest 175 yards on 19 carries in less than three quarters, scored the first of his two touchdowns from 2 yards out. Texas Tech picked up two first downs, punted and Phillips scored again, running 56 yards after initiating a three-play drive with a 20-yard

The sophomore from West Covina, Calif., might have been tentative in the an opener against West Virginia, despite rushing for 126

While the Black Shirts gave Tech's quarterbacks headaches, fullback Cory Schlesinger (40) and the Huskers found plenty of holes amassing 524 yards on the ground and 612 overall.



yards. But there was no tentativeness against Texas Tech. With 4:19 remaining in the third quarter, Nebraska led 28-9, and Phillips was finished for the evening. Two games into the season, he's almost a third of the way to 1,000 yards rushing.

"It was really disheartening to be in there for a while and then lose it,' Dykes said of the brief excitement when his team cut the led to 14-9.

Nebraska suffered a significant loss just seconds after Phillips scored for a second time. Cornhusker free safety Mike Minter was injured chasing Texas Tech I-back Alton Crain out of bounds along the Red Raider sideline after an 18-yard gain. Minter had to be helped back across the field by Nebraska trainers George Sullivan and Jerry Weber, after suffering what was diagnosed as a torn anterior cruciate ligament. Minter is expected to be lost for the remainder of the season.

"People can't imagine what he means to the defense," Nebraska defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said of Minter, a redshirted sophomore from Lawton, Okla. "The kid is for real. He's the most outstanding young one (defensive back) we've had."

Minter's loss further depletes the Cornhusker secondary, which lost senior safety Sedric Collins after the



Mike Minter (No. 10), Nebraska's No. 1 free safety, suffered what appeared to be a season-ending knee injury late in the third quarter of the Cornhuskers' 42-16 victory over Texas Tech.

The impact of his loss is underscored in a story about Nebraska's secondary on page 10 "Last Line Of Defense." The story was printed prior to the Tech game and thus doesn't reflect the injury.

With senior safety Sedric Collins also quitting the team after the Kickoff Classic, the secondary suddenly has taken on a different look. Even so, "we can still be good," defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said.

Kickoff Classic. Collins, an experienced backup who received his degree in August graduation ceremonies, quit the team, causing the coaches to reconsider redshirting sophomore Michael Booker.

With Minter sidelined, Booker and freshman Octavious McFarlin were both to be taken out of redshirt seasons and prepared to play cornerback so that sophomore Eric Stokes, who is coming off surgery, can concentrate on playing safety. McBride said he preferred to have defensive backs playing either safety or cornerback instead of alternating between the positions. Stokes had been working at both.

Minter was the most experienced safety and was the best at getting players lined up correctly, one of his position's essential responsibilities. Now that falls on the shoulders of senior Kareem Moss, a converted cornerback, and junior Tony Veland, who was a quarterback until last spring.

Veland has adapted to safety, and got his first career interception against Texas Tech. But his continued good health, like that of

Stokes, has been a concern of the Cornhusker coaching staff.

The return of junior cornerback Tyrone Williams after a one-game suspension was a plus for the secondary, though Texas Tech did seem to pick on Williams. Even so, he was credited with seven tackles, secondmost on the team behind the eight of outside linebacker Dwayne Harris.

The Red Raiders took advantage of Nebraska's aggressive pass rush, as much by accident as by design. Time and again, Tech quarterback Zebbie Lethridge looked to pass, couldn't and scrambled. "People will say: 'What's wrong with the defense?' Nothing is wrong with the defense. It's the doggone quarterbacks who are pretty good," McBride said, comparing Lethridge, a redshirted freshman, to Colorado's Kordell Stewart. Lethridge gained 62 yards on only six carries. He also threw a 6-yard touchdown pass to Scott Aylor to cut the score to 14-9.

The Red Raiders' second touchdown came with 6:24 remaining, when Tony Darden, who started at quarterback and alternated with Lethridge, scrambled for 12 yards and fumbled at the goal line. Tech tackle Ben Kaufman managed to Recover the ball for the score. The Red Raiders had taken possession by intercepting a Brook Berringer pass.

Nebraska didn't allow Texas Tech the satisfaction of scoring last, however. With two minutes remaining, backup I-back Clinton Childs ran 30

vards for a touchdown.

Before the game, Cornhusker offensive line coach Milt Tenopir set a goal of 400 rushing yards. The offensive line immediately amended that goal, adding another 100. Nebraska reached that goal on the final play of the game, when walkon fullback Brian Schuster ran for 33 yards.

"Overall, the running game went really well," said Frazier, who finished with 84 rushing yards on 13 carries to move into a tie with Turner Gill, his position coach, for second on the Cornhuskers' career rushing list for quarterbacks. Frazier has 1,317 rushing yards in just over two seasons. Steve Taylor is first on the all-time list, with 2,560 rushing yards.

As the game wore on, "I started getting tired, and the whole offense started dragging a little," Frazier said. Plus, "the Tech defense really played the whole game strong."

The next time Nebraska and Texas Tech play, they will be members of the same conference, a fact that made a minor footnote to the Cornhuskers' first regular-season game in Texas since 1967, when they defeated TCU 29-0.

"I don't know how to size this up," Osborne said. "Texas Tech plays Oklahoma next week and we play UCLA. We'll get a better read of things then. People got awfully excited awfully fast after the Kickoff Classic. We've got a long way to go and have a lot to prove."

Nebraska apparently had nothing left to prove to the Red Raiders, though. "They are a well-coached team, and you can't make mistakes against them," said Aylor. "They are really fast on defense, and they run the ball a lot, which makes it tough."

The Cornhuskers have plenty of ways to defeat opponents. "If they aren't No. 1, they are certainly up there," Aylor said. ■

# LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

Here at Huskers Illustrated, we plan our production schedule in January for the whole year. That allows our printer and our vendors to plan their work around our schedule. This year, that plan got us in

By the time we were told about the Kickoff Classic it was too late for us to change our printing slot and our schedule. Unfortunately this

meant that we could not produce an issue in between the West Virginia and Texas Tech game.

I felt terrible that Huskers Illustrated could not deliver an issue after Nebraska's great win over the Mountaineers. We assure you, the subscriber, that we will be more flexible in the future to guarantee that you get the coverage of the Huskers you deserve.

# DIRECTION

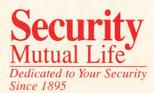


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# SEPTEMBER 8, 1994

	SCORE	BY	QUARTE	RS		
TEAM	1	2	3	4		<b>Final</b>
Nebraska	7	7	14	14	_	42
Texas Tech	0	3	6	7	_	16

TEAM STATS		DI	EFENS	SIVE S	TATS		
First Downs	TT 17	NU 26	-	NEE	BRASK	A	
Rushing	10	22	Player		Asst.	Sacks	Int.
Passing	6	4	Harris	2	6	1	0
Penalty	1	0	Williams, T.	7	0	0	0
Rushing Attempts	42	63	Moss	7	0	0	0
	100	546	Jones, D.	5	1	0	0
Yards Gained Rushing		7.00	Minter	3 2 3 3	2	0	0
Yards Lost Rushing	25	22	Ellis	2	2	0	0
Net yards rushing	147	524	Hardin	3	1	0	0
Net yards passing	150	88	Miles		0	0	0
Passes attempted	29	17	Stewart	3	0	0	0
Passes completed	11	5	Colman	3 2 2	0	0	0
	4	4	Dennis Veland	0	2	0	0
Had intercepted		1	Terwilliger	2	0	1	Ó
Total plays	71	80	Tomich	2	0	0	0
Total net yards	297	612	Wistrom	1	1	0	0
Avg. gain per play	4.2	7.6	Stokes	2	Ó	0	
Fumbles-lost	1-0	0-0	Peter, C.	1	0	1	0
Penalties-yards	4-30	5-44	Pesterfield	1	0	1	0
Punts-yards	8-331	3-141		TEX	AS TEC	H	
Avg. per punt	41.4	47.0		Tac	kles		
Possession time	26:10	33:50	Player	Solo	Asst.	Sacks	Int.
Third Down Efficiency		7-15	Thomas, Z.	7	7	0	0
Time Down Emolericy	0-17	7-10	Thomas, B.	7	3	0	0

# **INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

	RUSHING NEBRASKA					BRASI	-			
Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	Player	No.	Yds.	Long	TD
Frazier	13	84	6.5	58	2	Phillips	3	39	24	0
Phillips	19	175	9.2	50	2	Baul	1	14	14	0
Schlesinger	6	84	9.3	24	0	Alford	1	35	35	1
Benning	7	45	6.4	12	0		TE)	(AS TE	CH	
Makovicka	5	25	5.0	11	0	Player	No.	Yds.	Long	TD
Childs	10	59	5.9	30	1	Scovell	4	74	43	0
Schuster	2	37	18.5	33	0	Mitchell	3	24	12	0
	TEX	(AS T	ECH			Lavender	1	15	15	0
Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	Aylder	1	6	6	1
Lethridge	6	62	10.3	18	0					
Crain	15	46	3.0	16	0		FIEL	D GO	ALS	
							NE	BRAS	KA	
	P	ASSI	1G			Player	Att.	Comp	o. Lo	ong
	NE	BRAS	SKA			Erstad	2	0	0	
Player	Att./	Comp	.Int.	Yds.	TD		TE	(AS TE	CH	
Frazier	15/5		0	88	1	Player	Att.	Comp	o. Lo	ong
Berringer	2/0		1	0	0	Davis	1	1	49	
	TEX	KAS T	ECH							
Player	Att./	Comp	.Int.	Yds.	TD		PI	NITNL	G	
Darden	10/3		0	64	0		NE	BRAS	KA	
Lethridge	14/5		1	46	1	Player	No.	Avg.	Yds.	Long
Cavazos	5/3		0	40	0	Erstad	3	47.0	141	62

# **SEASON STATS**

(2 GAMES)

INDIVIDUAL	CTATICTICS
INDIVIDUAL	STATISTICS

	UAL		SHIN	TICS G		
		G	N	0.	Yds.	YPG
Frazier		2	2		214	107.0
Phillips		2	4:		301	150.5
Schlesinger	-	2	1-		115	57.5
Childs		2	1		89	44.5
Benning		2	1:	2	64	32.0
Makovick		2		7	36	18.0
Norris		1		1	5	5.0
Schuster		1		2	37	37.0
			SSI			2.10
	G	Cmp			Yds	Tds.
Frazier	2	13				
Berringer	1		) 2		0	
			EIVI			
	G	No.		YP	C YP	G Tds
Baul	2	4	60			0.0 1
Phillips	2	5	56			3.0 0
Muhammad	-	1	23			1.5 0
Alford	2	1	35			7.5 1
	-		ENS		1	
	G	Un.	Asst.	2.7	Int.	Sacks
Colman	2	6	5	11	0	1
Stewart	2	7	3	10	0	0
Peter, C.	2	5	3	8	0	3.5
Jones	2	6	2	8	0	0
Moss	2	8	0	8	0	1
Tomich	2	5	2	7	0	1
Minter	2	3	4	7	0	0
Williams, T.	. 1	7	0	7	0	0
Wistrom	2	3	2	5	0	1.5
Hesse	2	4	0	4	0	0
Brown	2	2	2	4	0	0
Terwilliger	2	3	1	4	0	2
Miles	2	3	1	4	1	0
Veland	2	2	2	4	1	0
Stokes	2	2	2	4	0	0
Dennis	2	4	0	4	0	0
Penland	2	1	2	3	0	0
Dumas	2	3	0	3	0	0
		0	2	2	0	0
Connealy	1					

TEAM ST	ATIST	ICS	N	U	Opp
First Down	S		54		26
<b>Total Offer</b>	sive Ya	rds	1,0	080	386
<b>Net Rushin</b>	g Yards		89	2	155
Passing Ya	ırds		18	8	231
Scoring	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	TOT
NU	10	28	14	21	73
Орр	0	3	6	7	16

# 1994 NEBRASKA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

	Record — 2-	.0
Aug. 28	vs. W. Virginia	W, 31-0
Sept. 8	@ Texas Tech	W, 42-16
Sept. 17	UCLA	
Sept. 24	Pacific	
Oct. 1	Wyoming	
Oct. 8	Oklahoma St.	
Oct. 15	@ Kansas St.	
Oct. 22	@ Missouri	
Oct. 29	Colorado	
Nov. 5	Kansas	
Nov. 12	@ Iowa St.	
Nov 25	@ Oklahama	

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# RICH ON LIFE

One of the greatest defensive linemen to wear the Husker colors, Rich Glover is trying to pursue his second dream coaching

ich Glover was among a handful of fans on the field at Miami's Orange Bowl for media day prior to the 1994 Orange Bowl football game between Nebraska and Florida State.

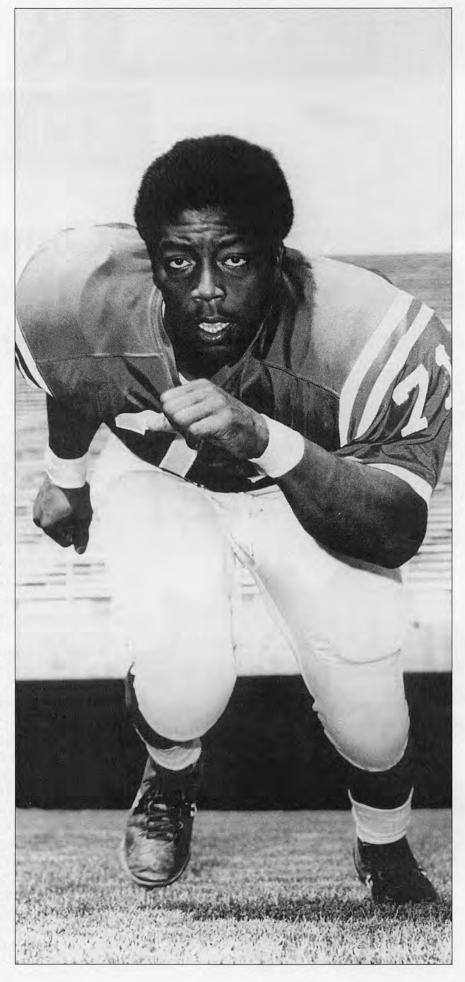
He was anonymous, for the most part, an interested observer of the proceedings. But his perspective was different from that of most of the fans.

"Wow, we were here," Glover said as he gazed at the banner running the length of the facing on the second deck. "The City of Miami Welcomes You to the Orange Bowl," it read, in bright orange letters.

The sign has special meaning for Glover, a member of the Orange Bowl's Hall of Honor. He is always welcome there. He is a part of its rich tradition, having played in three consecutive New Year's Day games, including two with the mythical national championship at stake.

In his last Orange Bowl game, on Jan. 1, 1973, he was chosen the outstanding defensive player, as Nebraska defeated Notre Dame, 40-6. The Cornhuskers have played in eight Orange Bowl games since that night. "I've made every one since I played my last one," Glover said.

His pride was unmistakable. Twenty-plus years haven't changed his feelings about the experience.



"I remember playing the (Orange Bowl) game, how exciting it was, said Glover. "It was the best thing

that ever happened to me."

It was, as far as athletics are concerned, anyway. Glover is married, with two sons and a daughter now. There are more important things than football, but playing in the Orange Bowl and representing Nebraska . . . well, nothing else has compared.

"When I see all that red and white, I still get the feeling," he said.

Glover, a football coach and teacher at San Jose City College, was the first Cornhusker to win both the Lombardi Award and Outland Trophy in the same season, 1972. He finished third in voting for the Heisman Trophy, which was won by teammate Johnny Rodgers. Glover's No. 72 jersey is among those that have been retired by Nebraska.

Glover played for two of the best

teams in Cornhusker history, those that won back-toback national championships under Bob Devaney in 1970 and 1971. And he did it despite the claim by some that he was too small to be a defensive lineman.

Too small? In the "Game of the Century" Thanksgiving Day 1971 in

Norman, Okla., Glover lined up at middle guard, across from Tom Brahaney, Oklahoma's All-America

Everyone remembers the punt return by Rodgers and the Cornhuskers' drive for Jeff Kinney's touchdown in the closing minutes of the game. But Glover's performance that afternoon was equally dramatic. Brahaney couldn't block him, and Glover made 22 tackles. Too small, indeed.

Glover stood out in what arguably was the best defensive line in Nebraska history. Monte Kiffin, the Cornhuskers' defensive line coach, had a stable of quality players, including Larry Jacobson -who won the Outland Trophy in 1971 -Bill Janssen, Monte Johnson and John Dutton.

Glover, who was 6-foot-1 and weighed about 230 pounds, aspired to be a defensive tackle when he arrived at Nebraska. About the only concession he made because of his size was moving to middle guard, at the suggestion of Devaney. As things turned out, Glover's change of positions was in everyone's best interests. He became the standard by which Cornhusker middle guards are measured.

However, size might have been a factor in limiting his professional

ecause of his size, Glover wasn't selected until the third round of 1973's NFL draft. The New York Giants selected him, which meant he would be near his childhood home in Jersey City, N.J.

Glover's homecoming was reason for celebration at first. He started the final six games for the Giants in 1973 and was voted the team's outstanding rookie defender. The celebration, however, was short-lived.

The Giants hired a new head coach, who released Glover before the start of the next season. Glover then entered the newly organized World Football League with the Houston Texans, who soon moved

said. He was looking for a challenge, something to pass the time while he considered possibly trying the NFL one more time. What he found was a career. When former Cornhusker Warren

Powers was hired as the head coach at Washington State, replacing Jackie Sherrill, he contacted Glover about coaching the Cougars' defensive line. That's how Glover ended up on the unfamiliar visitors side of the field at Memorial Stadium when Washington State came to Lincoln and upset the Cornhuskers, 19-10, in the 1977 season opener.

He remained at Washington State when Powers went to Missouri, spending three seasons on Jim

Walden's staff.

When Walden left Washington State for Iowa State, Glover left coaching, but only briefly. He tried selling insurance, then took an assistant coaching job at San Jose City

> College. He's been at the junior college since.

Glover, who would like to get back to the major college level, regularly attends coaches' conventions with that in mind. "You just have to keep at it, be persistent," he said.

# "When I see all that red and white, I still get the feeling."

-Rich Glover

to Louisiana and became the Shreveport Steamer. Glover played in eight games, at defensive end, before the Steamer folded, leaving him without a job.

In 1975, just two seasons after he was chosen as the outstanding lineman in college football, Glover was training camp with Philadelphia Eagles, trying to earn a job as a free agent and still fighting the perception that he was too small. Eagles coach Mike McCormack acknowledged that, yes, he was a bit small for a defensive lineman in the NFL, but he would be given an opportunity. Glover took advantage of the chance and played his way onto the roster.

Each time Glover convinced a coach he could play, the coach was replaced. Instead of the relative security that can come from proving oneself in competition, Glover always had to start over from scratch. After the Eagles sent him packing, Glover returned to Jersey City, where he volunteered to help coach the football team at the high school from which he graduated -Dickerson.

He had nothing else to do, Glover

hat's how Glover became one of the greatest defensive players in Nebraska history, how he came to earn a place in the Orange Bowl Hall of Honor. As a youngster growing up in Jersey City, "I pretended I was playing in that game," he said as he watched players prepare for the annual classic, more than 20 years

Glover said he tries to return to Lincoln at least once a season.

In February 1982 Glover was among several former Nebraska football players who returned for the Cornhuskers' 1981 Big Eight championship banquet. He stood before a capacity audience of 2,100 in the Agricultural Hall at the State Fairgrounds and tried to find words to express his feelings about Nebraska.

His words came quickly at first, flowing in a stream of emotion. Then, for a restless moment the words didn't come at all.

Glover struggled to control his voice. "The greatest moment in my life was winning a scholarship to come to Nebraska," he said, fighting back tears. "I just want to tell you fans how much I love you all." ■



# **Looking For A Leader**

Nebraska is searching across the country for quarterbacks versatile enough to handle the multiple responsibilities the Huskers demand

By JAMES HALE

The quarterback position at Nebraska in the 90s is one of the glamour positions in college football. It's a position that demands a great athlete who can run option football as well as anybody in the country, but with the ability to loosen the secondary through the passing game. In the recent past, Husker quarterback Turner Gill established the prototype, followed by great athletes like Steve Taylor and now, Tommie Frazier.

Quarterbacks who execute Tom Osborne's system must be among the better athletes on the team, posing an option threat while possessing enough passing ability to be dan-

gerous.

More and more in the high school ranks, run/pass quarterbacks are being groomed for this type of offense. With Nebraska putting the ball up 20 to 25 times a game, more quarterbacks are dreaming of pulling the trigger of the Husker offense.

Kevin Williams (6-1, 175, 4.6) of Pine Bluff (Dollarway), Ark., is one who might be looking to be the trigger man at Nebraska. Ranked as one of the top 10 quarterbacks in the country with his run/pass skills, Williams is perfect for an offense like Nebraska's, but he wants to throw the ball first.

"I consider myself more of a passing quarterback than a runner," said Williams. "Most of my yardage on the ground comes on sprint-outs and scrambles. I think I can learn the option, but I won't go to a school that won't throw the ball at least 20 times a game."

Williams enjoyed the passing game to the tune of 1,414 yards and 16 touchdowns this past season, hitting on 92-of-198 passes. He also added 388 yards rushing and 15

scores.

Williams is receiving letters from everywhere, but he admits the Huskers are at the top of his list.

"Nebraska's got one of the best programs in the country," said Williams. "Tommie Frazier is the best in the country, and I hope to be



Quincy Woods is considered by many to be the best pass/run quarterback in the country.

that type of quarterback when my time comes around. I like Nebraska, Arkansas, OU, Iowa and Alabama at the moment, and I look forward to visiting all five."

If Williams isn't the best run/pass combo quarterback in the country, then it's Quincy Woods (6-1, 175, 4.6) of Park Forest (Rich East), Ill. Woods is compared more often to Tommie Frazier than any quarterback in the country.

Wood threw for 1,500 yards out of the pocket a year ago while running option football for 788 yards and 13 scores. Where Woods wants to take his talents is anybody's guess.

"I have followed Michigan and Notre Dame all my life, but I would rather play for a warm weather school," said Woods. "However, most of the great college football programs play in cold weather. Florida State is my favorite down South, and it's warm in Florida. However, I also like Nebraska, OU and Colorado of the Big Eight, with USC, Texas and North Carolina also on my list."

Woods may forget about Colorado when he learns of the commitment from Jeremy Weisinger (6-2, 185, 4.6) of Uvalde, Texas, to the Buffaloes. Weisinger chose the Buffs over Nebraska, Stanford and OU.

The Huskers may still land a Texas quarterback. Larry Holmes (6-3, 205, 4.5) of Ft. Worth (Nolan), Texas, is one of the better athletes playing quarterback in the country. Still a raw talent after playing QB for only a couple seasons, Holmes can bench 285 and managed to throw for 1,114 yards and 12 touchdowns last season in addition to rushing for 559.

Holmes dominates the private school league in Texas, earning offensive MVP honors the past two seasons. He's such a great athlete that some may want to move him to another position, but he will only consider those that promise him a shot at quarterback.

"I have worked so hard the past couple of years to learn everything I can about playing quarterback," said Holmes. "I haven't played the position that long, so my future is all out in front of me as a quarterback. I will choose a school that gives me an opportunity to run the offense."

The three early leaders are Nebraska, OU and Texas A&M, with Baylor and Oregon State in the pic-

ture.

Shane Lechler (6-2, 220, 4.6) of East Bernard, Texas, is another great athlete playing quarterback. Lechler

#### A CALL TO ARMS **UUARTERBACKS High School** Kevin Williams......6-1 175 4.6 Dollarway, Ark. Quincy Woods......6-1 175 Rich East, III. 4.6 Larry Holmes.....6-3 FW Nolan, Tex. 205 4.5 Shane Lechler.....6-2 220 4.6 E. Bernard, Tex. Kevin McCullar.....6-3 190 4.7 Nimitz, Tex. LaJune Burks......6-2 180 4.6 Terrabune, La.



Kevin Williams says Nebraska is at the top of his list of colleges.

has thrown for over 3,300 yards thus far in his prep career, but his 43-yard punting averaging is drawing him as much attention. Kevin McCullar (6-3, 190, 4.7) of Irving (Nimitz), Texas, another Texas Top 10 quarterback is considering Nebraska, Michigan, Iowa and Texas A&M.

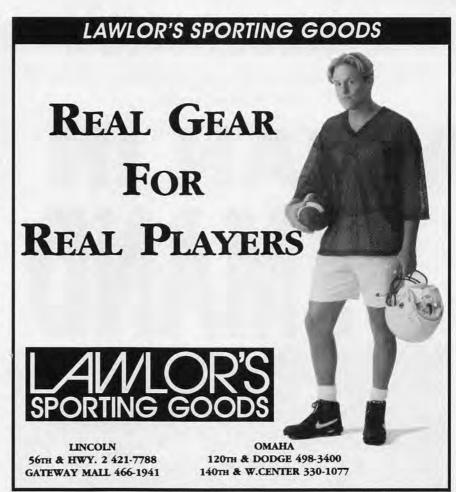
The Huskers have pulled some outstanding players out of Louisiana before, and they are in the hunt for the top quarterback prize in the state. LaJune "Pete" Burks (6-2, 180, 4.6) of Houma (Terrebonne), La., is regarded as one of the nation's top eight after hitting on 157-of-243 passes for 2,201 yards and 19 scores. He also added another 324 on the ground.

"LaJune is the total package at quarterback," said Terrebonne Head Coach Pat Kee. "He has great arm strength, accuracy, quick feet and the intelligence you look for in your quarterback."

Burks has followed Notre Dame all his life, and you get the feeling if the Irish offer a scholarship that he just might head to South Bend, despite the fact Ron Powlus is only a freshman starter for the Irish. Florida State is a school that Burk's father likes, while Texas A&M, Nebraska and Michigan round out his top five passing teams.

Nebraska always seems to draw attention out of California. John Fox (6-2, 185, 4.7) of Corona (Centennial), Calif., threw for 1,425 yards and ran for another 312. He doesn't possess the pure sprinter's speed that the Huskers have liked in the past, but he's such a solid QB that he's high on Nebraska's list. UCLA is a slight leader in the early going, closely followed by Nebraska, Colorado, Stanford and USC.

The Huskers are searching for the eventual successer to Tommie Frazier, and before it's all said and done, they will look coast-to-coast to find him.



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# MANIN DEMAND



t the time Nebraska was preparing to Pennsylvania in the first round of the NCAA East Regional at the Nassau County Coliseum on Long Island, N.Y., Danny Nee was mentioned among the leading candidates to replace Paul Evans as head coach at the University Pittsburgh.

Nee's candidacy made sense, not only because he is from the East but also because his wife, Janet, is from the Pittsburgh area. In addition, it underscored the success he has brought to the Nebraska basketball program, including four consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances and a Big Eight Tournament champi-

onship.

"I guess it's a compliment, in a way," Nee said recently. "But it can

be a pain, too."

In the spring, he again was mentioned as a possible candidate for a head coaching vacancy, this time at Seton Hall. The job came open when Coach P.J. Carlissimo accepted an opportunity to move to the NBA.



As with Pittsburgh, Seton Hall offered Nee a chance to coach close to the area in which he grew up. Seton Hall, a Big East school, is located in East Orange, N.J., just across the Hudson River from New York City. Nee, of course, is from Brooklyn.

That Seton Hall would have an interest in a successful coach such as the 49-year-old Nee was logical enough. Likewise, Nee might have had more than passing interest in the Seton Hall job. But he declined comment on the rumors regarding his possible candidacy there, seeming more put off than pleased.

"Some of it is irresponsible jour-nalism," he said. "They just take my name and jump all over it."

Nee isn't actively looking to go elsewhere. He's just beginning to realize the results of an aggressive building program, which has made Cornhusker basketball a hot ticket. By the same token, he's very marketable because of the program's success, and the uncertainties of major college coaching demand that

Danny Nee has become a hot commodity on the coaching market despite never winning an NCAA tournament game.

he carefully consider realistic opportunities to improve his situation, financially as well as professionally. Being included on lists of candidates, almost as a matter of course, is "an advantage in certain ways," he

It is not without its downside, however. "People always saying that you're leaving hurts recruiting," Nee said. Such rumors can create doubt in the minds of recruits, who are then hesitant to commit to Nebraska for fear Nee might not be the coach when they arrive, much less be around throughout their careers at Nebraska. That's why he was so concerned about the Seton Hall rumors, Nee said.

The good news for Nebraska fans is, candidate or not, Nee isn't headed for Seton Hall. He's preparing for his ninth season in charge of the Cornhuskers, and he anticipates continued success. In the Big Eight Conference Service Bureau's annual summer prospectus, he is quoted: "I like our team, and when I like my team, that usually is a good sign. What I like about this year's group is the nucleus is going to be together for two years. I don't see any innate Nee feels the 1994 squad has the potential to surpass last year's team, which surprised many by winning the Big Eight Conference Tournament.

weaknesses that we can't overcome."

Nee carried that message to New York City on the Monday after the Nebraska football team's 31-0 victory against West Virginia in the Kickoff Classic. He attended the game, then participated in a media day sponsored by the Big Eight Conference at Tavern-on-the-Green, a well-known New York City restaurant located on Central Park West. Nee and the conference's new coaches - Kansas State's Tom Asbury, Iowa State's Tim Floyd and Oklahoma's Kelvin Sampson socialized with representatives from national print and broadcast media, including the major television networks, the ESPN cable network and Sports Illustrated. Officials from the National Invitation Tournament also were there.

Nee enjoyed getting back to New York City. "I hadn't been there in a while," he said. But, he was quick to



add: "I don't want to live there." And he didn't make a side trip to the old neighborhood in Brooklyn. "There's no reason to go back to Brooklyn, none at all," he said. ■

# AROUND THE HORN

#### THE MADNESS IS COMING

Nebraska will once again have a "Midnight Madness" promotion in conjunction with its first practice of the season, according to Nee. "I don't know for sure what we'll call it, though," he said.

### LIFE AFTER NEBRASKA

Former Cornhusker Bruce Chubick (right) is playing professionally in Israel, according to Nick Joos, Nebraska's director of basketball operations. Chubick played briefly in France after completing his eligibility at Nebraska last season. He participated in a New York Knicks development program during the summer in New York City.

#### PACK THE SUNSCREEN

Among the non-conference highlights on Nebraska's 1994-95 schedule is a trip to Puerto Rico for the San Juan Shootout, Nov. 25 through Nov. 27. The Cornhuskers play Northeast Louisiana in the first round. Virginia Tech plays Montana State in the other first-round game in Nebraska's bracket.

The teams in the other bracket are: Illinois, Alabama-Birmingham, College of Charleston and the American University of Puerto Rico. Illinois is the tournament's top seed. American University-Puerto Rico is the only team in the opposite bracket that didn't qualify for the 1994 NCAA Tournament.



If you're looking for signs, Nebraska also played in the San Juan Shootout in 1990, defeating St. Louis and Illinois, then losing to Murray State 81-79 in the championship game. The tournament opened the most successful season in school histo-

The Cornhuskers finished with a 26-8 record and earned the first of their four consecutive NCAA Tournament bids.

### **WOMEN HAVE GAME MOVED**

The Husker women's team of Coach Angela Beck is scheduled for an exhibition against the Puerto Rican national team on Nov. 20. The game will be played at the Devaney Sports Center, however, rather

than in Puerto Rico.

In addition to their own Cablevision Classic, Nov. 25-26, the Husker women will join Indiana and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the Duke Invitational, Dec. 3-4.

### **EDGING OUT THE CONFERENCE BIGGIES**

Nebraska's recruiting class was ranked 22nd nationally by Bob Gibbons' All-Star Publications, according to the Big Eight's summer prospectus. Missouri had the highest-ranked recruiting class (No. 7).

Oklahoma State was ranked No. 15, Kansas was No. 17, Kansas State was No. 28, and Oklahoma was No. 30.



# No New Kids On The Block

Bullies won't slow the Lady Huskers from turning the soccer program into a national contender in the near future

By STEVE SIPPLE

ebraska, in its first season of NCAA-sponsored women's varsity soccer, wants to avoid a "new-kid-on-the-block mentality."

With that mindset, the Cornhuskers might fall prey to some

more experienced bullies.

"We've talked about that since our very first meeting," Nebraska Coach John Walker said. "We cannot use our situation as an excuse.

"Whoever we're playing, whether they've been playing one year or 10 years, we still have to play them."

Nebraska lost its season opener Sept. 6 in Lincoln against Creighton, 3-1, and finishes the regular season Nov. 6 at Arizona. In between, there are 16 matches of varying degrees of difficulty, ranging from the College of St. Mary of Omaha to a match against Stanford.

A few days before the seasonopener, Walker, a 30-year-old from Kingston, Ontario, said he was excited — not nervous — about starting the school's inaugural season.

the school's inaugural season.

"It's funny," he said. "From a coaching standpoint, you're thinking long-term development, but you can't be putting too much emphasis on the long run and not look at the short term."

Sophomore Tanya Franck of Toronto, one of two Cornhuskers who started for NCAA Division I-A schools last season, couldn't help but think about the program's future.

"I see our team as having a good future," said Franck, a 5-foot-6 mid-fielder-defender who was the third-leading scorer at Arkansas-Little Rock before transferring. "I'm almost sad knowing I only have three years left. We have the facilities, coaching staff and money. In a couple years, I think we'll definitely be a Top-20 team."

The Cornhuskers will definitely have a top-notch facility. Walker said that the \$3 million Ethel S. Abbott Soccer Park Complex in northeast Lincoln will be ready in time for their Sept. 30 game against Teikyo Westmar. Until then, Nebraska will play its home games at Whittier Field, located a few



The only expectations put on the first-year soccer program will be from the players and coach.

blocks east of the university's city campus.

Eventually, the new soccer complex will be the site of Nebraska's offices and locker area. In all, the park will have 21 playing fields and nine practice fields and will be used by the area's age-group soccer teams.

"I think it's going to be a firstclass facility," Walker said. "For us, with a new program and a new facility, it's very exciting.

"A month ago, I looked at it and thought, 'There's no way it's going to be ready. But that little bit of green (grass) changes your perception."

Walker's perception of the first Nebraska team is positive.

"I think the girls certainly have a good team spirit," he said.

"Hopefully, we'll be a team that puts pressure on our opponents.

"I think we'll be a tight marking team, like a basketball team that plays full-court man-to-man or three-quarter court man-to-man."

Walker said he is the type of coach who will use a style that best fits the type of players he has.

"For me, there's no one way to play," he said. "I look at the players, and we're reasonably happy with our speed and fitness. We have a couple girls with good size. We're not track-meet fast or huge, but we feel comfortable applying pressure."

Instead of setting a goal for achieving a certain number of wins, Walker said he has focused on establishing a level of commitment and intensity that is acceptable to him.

"It will be important the players understand how intense, how demanding this level of play will be," Walker said. "Essentially, they have to grow up quickly."

Besides Franck, the other Cornhusker with Division I-A experience is Kim Ratliff.

Ratliff, a defender from Omaha, transferred from Marquette, where she was a starter during that school's inaugural season. She said it was frustrating at times last season because some of the scholarship players were more dedicated than the former club players and walkons on the squad.

"Here at Nebraska, everybody has pretty much the same level of commitment," Ratliff said. "Everybody seems enthusiastic to start the season, and we seem to get along — there's no conflicting attitudes and things like that."

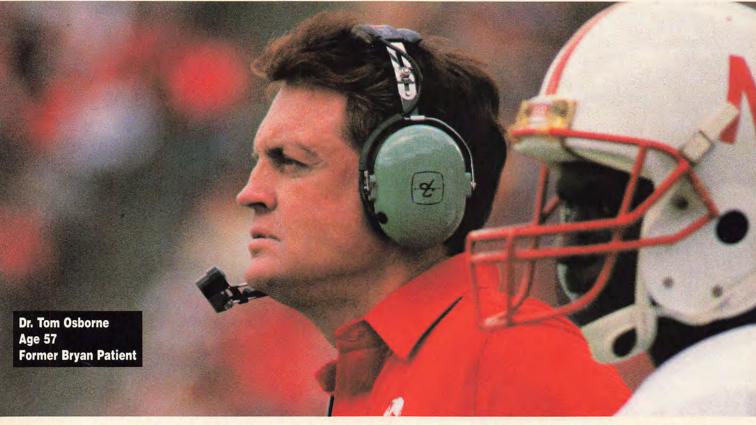
Nebraska's 22-woman roster features 15 freshmen and seven sophomores, including four ex-Nebraska club players. It has 11 in-state play-

Franck and Ratliff said Nebraska has talent throughout its lineup.

"We definitely have the skill," said Franck, who was voted as the top newcomer during her freshman season at Arkansas-Little Rock. "Now, it's the want we have to determine."

28 SEPTEMBER 17, 1994

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# **Overrated Ratings**

Despite an early No. 1 ranking, Tom Osborne wants to play for wins and respect — not the polls

### By MIKE BABCOCK

uring his weekly news conference on the Tuesday before the Texas Tech game, Nebraska coach Tom Osborne was asked a theoretical question: In the event his Cornhuskers posted a decisive victory against Texas Tech, would he be disappointed if they were to drop in the national rankings?

The timing of the question was significant, coming as it did a day after Nebraska was voted the No. 1 ranking in both the Associated Press and *USA Today*/CNN polls, replacing Florida, which opened its season with a 70-21 victory against New Mexico State two days earlier.

The Cornhuskers, who had been behind Florida at No. 2 in the previous week's AP rankings (despite more first-place votes) and were No. 3 in the *USA Today*/CNN preseason

poll, were elevated to the top even though they had the weekend off. Florida State had been No. 2, with Florida No. 1, in the *USA Today*/CNN preseason Top 25. There had not been another *USA Today*/CNN poll.

"I would be very happy to win (against Texas Tech)," Osborne said in answer to the question. "And that's all we're going to go down there for. We don't play for the polls."

The insubstantial nature of national rankings was underscored dramatically by Florida's drop below the idle Cornhuskers. Certainly, New Mexico State was overmatched. But the Gators were using reserves by the second half, and a 49-point victory is impressive against any Division I-A opponent.

"I'm not crying sour grapes here,"

said Osborne, whose teams have experienced ratings frustrations similar to Florida's in recent seasons. "I just don't think unless you have a playoff or whatever that something depending on the ballot box should be given the amount of significance it is.

"I'm always a little bit appalled at the emphasis that's placed on ratings and rankings and those kinds of things. It doesn't mean much. I think if we had a computer deal that was really well thought out, and really standardized, I'd buy into it more. I might be a little more excited about rankings if it (a team's position) was (based on) strength of schedule, margin of victory, all the things I think are important."

Osborne tempered his response with a bit of humor — a team's ranking should depend on important

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things "like rushing the football," he said. "But when you've just got a whole bunch of people's opinions, that doesn't make much difference to me. I know how valid my opinion is."

Osborne is among the 62 coaches who vote in the *USA Today/CNN* poll. The AP rankings are based on voting by 62 media representatives.

"I voted for teams like BYU. I don't know how good BYU is right now. I like Lavell Edwards (the Cougars' veteran coach). He's a good friend of mine. I put them down at 24th or 23rd," Osborne said. "I don't have a clue. I know sports writers know more than I do. But I doubt if they know a whole lot about some of the teams they're voting on. It's a crazy system."

Crazy or not, the ratings are an unavoidable topic of discussion, particularly as they relate to top-ranked teams. After Nebraska's victory against Texas Tech, the Red Raiders were asked whether their opponent deserved to be rated No. 1 in the nation. The consensus seemed to be

it did.

"They are the No. 1 team in the nation," said Texas Tech I-back Alton Crane, who was limited to 46 rushing yards on 15 carries by the fleet Cornhusker defense. "They have great team speed, especially on defense."

Red Raider middle linebacker Zach Thomas, who had a remarkable 14 tackles, was similarly complimentary, after having to deal with Nebraska's run-oriented offense, which gained 612 yards. "They've got a great team, and I think they've got a chance for a national championship. They have great talent, especially in the offensive line. Those guys can really move, and that's what makes Nebraska a great team."

Osborne described his team's second victory as "workmanlike."

"We did a job tonight, and that's about it. We played good but not inspired. I think they were more excited to play Nebraska than Nebraska was excited to play them," Osborne said.

The Cornhuskers were No. 1 in the AP rankings for the first time since the week before the Oklahoma game in 1987. (They lost 17-7.)

"This time of season, I personally think way too much is made of No. 1," Osborne said. "I think way too much is made of it even after the season is over."

Much will have happened by then. ■

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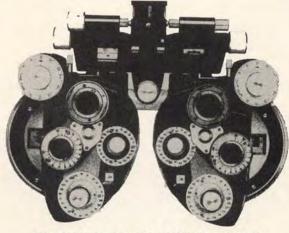
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